

NSC BRIEFING

5 August 1958

CHINESE NATIONALIST
INTENTIONS

- I. At present there are no indications that the Chinese Nationalists intend to take pre-emptive action against the Communist occupied airfields.
- A. Chiang Kai-shek stated on 4 August that he will continue to honor his treaty commitments to the United States which require consultation before ordering air attacks against mainland targets
- B. However, the possibility of Chinese Nationalist action cannot be ruled out. Chiang called occupation of the airfields a "great threat" to Taiwan, and possibly a prelude to invasion of Taiwan.
- C. He believes that the Chinese Communists are capable of rash action to take advantage of the current situation.
1. Some Chinese Nationalist military leaders have toyed with the idea of counter action but all have indicated that if the decision is to be made it will be Chiang's.

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- II. Chiang also asked for additional aid from the United States.

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A. He requested:

--Sidewinder air-to-air guided missiles.

--Rapid re-equipment of his F-84G fighter squadrons with F-86F's.

--Permanent deployment of F-100D's on Taiwan.

--A show of force by the United States 7th fleet.

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III.

A. Chiang is unlikely to order an attack against the mainland without at least the tacit prior approval of Washington and the backing of United States forces.

B. However, prolonged military tension in the area without increased American support could result in a critical deterioration of Sino-American relations.

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